

REMARKS

The following remarks are provided in response to the Restriction Requirement dated December 15, 2006, in which the examiner reasoned that:

- I. Claims 1-17 and 34-50 are drawn to secure transactions including an electronic credential.
- II. Claims 18-33 are drawn to conducting secure transactions.

The applicants herein elect **Group I** (claims **1-17 and 34-50**) without traverse and respectfully request a timely examination of the elected claims. Further, the applicants preserve the right to pursue cancelled claims **18-33** in a divisional application.

CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the rejections have been overcome. Therefore, claims **1-17 and 34-50** are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if such contact would further the examination of the present application. Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account number 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 3, 2007



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